

***City of Rye***  
**Department of Recreation**  
**2006 Men's Softball League**  
**Rules and Regulations**

THE PURPOSE OF THE RYE RECREATION SOFTBALL LEAGUE IS TO PROVIDE RYE RESIDENTS WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN CONJUNCTION WITH A RECREATIONAL SPORTING EVENT. THE EMPHASIS OF THE LEAGUE IS NOT ON COMPETITION, BUT RATHER PARTICIPATION OF ALL TEAM MEMBERS. WE ADHERE TO THE MOTTO "WINNING ISN'T EVERYTHING" AND WE ARE MORE CONCERNED THAT ALL TEAMS ARE HAVING FUN AND ENJOYING THE ACTIVITY. "PLAY HARD. PLAY FAIR. HAVE FUN."

**ROSTERS**

Rosters may not exceed twenty-two (22) players and must have a minimum of twelve (12) players. Complete rosters and proof of eligibility must be submitted by **Tuesday, April 4th** or risk forfeiture of their first game. Roster changes and deletions may be made up until 5 p.m. on **Friday, June 2nd**.

A player may be added to your roster before the June 2nd deadline by submitting his name and proof of eligibility to the Rye Recreation Department office during office hours AND before he has played his first game. A player may not be added to your roster at the game site or by telephone the day of.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Men eligible to play in this league shall be:

- a. Permanent, legal residents of the City of Rye.
- b. Full time employees of a company based in the City of Rye and working out of that branch. Full time means at least 35 hours per week.
- c. 17 years of age or older. (High School students playing a spring sport may only play once their spring sport season is over.)
- d. Men not currently playing professional ball.
- e. Former residents who have continually played in this league.

If a player participates illegally or is found ineligible, there will be a \$50.00 fine for the game the player participated in, as well as forfeiture of the game in protest. The fine must be paid prior to the next scheduled game.

**FORFEITS**

- a. A team shall be dropped from the league after their second forfeit. Games played by dropped teams shall stand as played. The remainder of the games shall count as wins for the opposing teams. Double forfeits count as losses for both teams.
- b. If a team incurs a forfeit due to injury, that game shall count as a loss, not a forfeit. If the forfeit results from not having nine men at game time or ejection, then it shall count as a loss and a forfeit.
- c. A team that is suspended from the league is suspended for the following season. Players from the team may participate on other league teams during the suspension year, but no more than 6 per team.

### **PROTESTS**

A protest based on an umpire's judgment is not permitted. A protest based on rule interpretation or player eligibility is a valid protest. When questioning a player's eligibility, the team filing the protest must inform the umpire of the protest before the player enters the game. All other protests must be filed immediately after the play in question. The team manager making the protest must notify the umpire before the next pitch that the game is being protested and the grounds of the protest. The umpire will then inform the other team of the situation. A written account of the game situation (how many outs, who is on base, who is up, etc.) is to go in the book and signed by both managers and the umpire. Teams have 24 hours to submit a written protest plus a \$25.00 protest fee to the Recreation office. If the protested game occurs on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday, then the protest must be filed by Monday at 5:00pm. No protest will be considered without a written submission. The team protested against then has 24 hours to present their version of what happened (if necessary). If the protest is upheld, the protest fee will be refunded.

### **LEAGUE ALIGNMENT POLICY**

The intent of the League Alignment Policy is to move the top one or two teams from the "B" Division to the "A" Division and bottom one or two teams from "A" to "B". However, the League Coordinator will reserve the right to adjust the alignment for the purpose of maintaining the balance of competition. New teams depending on their roster makeup and league availability may be placed in either division.

### **PLAYER CONDUCT**

The drinking of alcoholic beverages on the playing field is prohibited. This applies to all players and coaches regardless of whether they are playing in the game at that point or not. Any player breaking this rule will be immediately ejected from the game and also be suspended from his next game. Umpires and Recreation Staff are instructed to enforce this rule. If your team would like to drink alcoholic beverages at the conclusion of the games, please use the upper or lower picnic shelters and obtain the proper permit. For games played at Rye High School, the drinking of any alcoholic beverages before, during or even after the game is prohibited.

Profanity/ Abusive language will not be tolerated.

Any player, manager or coach removed from the game for any reason will also be suspended from his next game.

Any particular person receiving two (2) ejections in the same season is automatically suspended for that season. If the second violation occurs in the month of August, the suspension will be in effect through the end of June of the following season.

Any player, manager or coach found guilty of physically abusing an umpire or another player in any way will be automatically removed from the league for the remainder of the season. If the violation occurs in the month of August, the suspension will be in effect through the end of June of the following season. **The Rye Recreation Department reserves the right to review each situation individually.**

Any spectators who run onto the field during the game could risk suspension from the facility. Any spectators who play in a Rye Softball League could get suspended from future games or the entire season. A spectator is defined as “any person who is not a manager, player or coach involved in the current game.”

## **RULES**

The official USSSA Rules shall be used in this league except where local rules supercede. Local rules shall include:

1. Game time in April and August is 6:15pm; all others are 6:30pm. There is also a 15-minute forfeit time.
2. A team must have nine (9) men ready to play by game time or risk a game forfeit. If after the fifteen minute grace period a team does not have nine men ready to play, they shall forfeit the game by a score of 7-0. A team may add a tenth player at anytime during the game and that player bats tenth. A team cannot add the 11<sup>th</sup> and/or 12<sup>th</sup> extra hitter(s) after the game has started.
3. **Lineups must be submitted before game time** and include last names. Teams may risk forfeiture of the game for failure to include last names on the score sheet. Home team submits their lineup first, and is also responsible for scoring in the official scorebook.

The umpires are not responsible for the score sheet. They are only responsible for checking the score between each half inning.

4. Players, managers and coaches are to be on the correct side of the field and stay on the players' bench when not in the field. Home team shall be on the third base side of the field.
5. The Rye Recreation Department schedules and reschedules all games. All games must be played as scheduled. No teams may reschedule games.
6. If there is a question concerning cancellation of games due to the weather or conditions of fields, players, managers or coaches should call the ***HOTLINE NUMBER, (914)-390-1379 AFTER 4:30 pm*** on game night. If the conditions are still in question near game

time, teams should report to the field at the scheduled time. The umpire will make the final decision at this time.

7. Lightning in the area is a justifiable cause to postpone a game. Severe lightning will immediately cancel the game. Sporadic lightning will delay the game based on umpire's judgment.
8. **Players may play for only one team.** Once a player participates in one league game, he is considered a permanent member of that team and cannot play for any other team. If a player's name appears on two rosters, the first game he participates in will determine which team he is on. Violation of this rule will result in suspension for the season and forfeiture of the game(s) in which player illegally participates.
9. **Plastic spikes with metal caps or metal spikes may not be worn in a game.**
10. One person, player or manager, is to be the designated spokesperson for the team. Only this person is to talk to the umpires in the case of any disputes. Other players/managers getting involved in the controversy are subject to game suspension upon the umpire's discretion.
11. In **MOST** cases team managers will be notified at least 48 hours before a makeup game is scheduled.
12. The second foul ball after two strikes shall be an out.
13. All regular season games will be seven (7) innings long, except in the instance of rain, darkness, extra innings or curfew. In the instance of rain or darkness, an official game must go five (5) innings, unless the home team is winning after 4-1/2 innings.
14. When a defensive player clearly has the ball and is waiting for the runner and the runner deliberately with great force crashes into the defensive player, the runner is declared out. The offender shall be ejected, the ball is dead and all other base runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the collision.
15. Makeup's may be scheduled by the department for any day of the week, for any field in Rye. Most of the makeups will be scheduled on Fridays. Should there be an extremely large number of rainouts, the extra makeups will be played on Sundays.
16. Courtesy runners may be used. Prior to the game the manager is responsible for informing the umpire as to which of their player(s) require a courtesy runner (**maximum of 2**). Those players selected must take the courtesy runner replacement regardless of what base they reach. The player who made the last out will become the courtesy runner, unless there is a reason why this player cannot run due to a medical condition. The umpire may allow any additional courtesy runners to a team due to injury. Steve Verille of Rye Liquor is always entitled to a courtesy runner.
17. Players hitting the catcher or umpire with a thrown bat can be declared out if deemed intentional.
18. **A player must participate in at least five games to be eligible for the playoffs.**

19. Gong Rule: 15 runs or more after 5 innings. Any time the home team is winning by 15+ runs after 5 innings than the game will be declared over. If the visiting team is winning by 15+ runs the Home team is required to bat during the bottom half of the inning. \*

\*Unless the game is called by the umpire for rain, lightning, darkness, etc....

20. Anyone wearing earrings, gold chains, watches or any other type of jewelry might be asked to remove it before entering the game.
21. Fake tags can result in an automatic ejection from the game.
22. Managers need to restrict pre-game practice (batting & throwing) until all spectators and players from a high school contest are cleared from the playing fields.
23. Re-Entry Rule: Any starting palyers may withdraw and re-enter once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever she is in the line-up. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter. Teams are responsible for policing each other regarding this rule.
24. **NEW RULE: For the 2006 season the pitching rule will change to the following:**

**The pitched ball must arc at least 3 feet after leaving the pitcher's hand and before it passes any part of home plate. The pitched ball shall not rise higher than 10 feet above the ground. Illegal pitches will not be called in flight.**

25. BATS:

A) ONLY SINGLE WALL BATS ARE ALLOWED.

Single wall bats that exceed a Bat Performance Factor (BPF) of 1.20 will not be allowed.

A player found using an illegal bat would be subject to the following penalties:

Penalties to be assessed:

1) Player is declared out

2) Player is ejected from the current game

3) Player is suspended from his next game

Please note:

- 1) Any particular person receiving two (2) ejections in the same season is automatically suspended for that season. If the second violation occurs in the month of August, the suspension will be in effect through the end of June of the following season.
- 2) If the ejection results in the team not having nine eligible players, then the game shall count as a loss and a forfeit.

B) Please note that new bats come out on the market throughout the season, please call the league director for approval before purchasing a new bat.

C) A team may challenge an illegal bat in two situations:

*#1) Once the umpire is ready to accept the batter if the batter is found to be using an illegal bat than the bat is taken out of the game and the batter will be subject to the penalties listed above.*

*#2) Immediately after the play in question ~ If the batter is found to be using an illegal bat than the bat is taken out of the game, all base runners must return to their original base and the player is subject to the penalties listed above.*

*D) If the umpire is uncertain if the bat is legal or illegal, the bat will be taken out of the game and cannot be used. The umpire will write down the make and model of the bat in question for the league director.*

*In the case where the bat is questioned before the player has batted and the umpire is uncertain, than the bat is removed from the game but the batter has the right to choose another bat.*

*Situation Example: A batter gets a base hit, the fielding team challenges the bat used. The umpire is uncertain if the bat is legal or illegal. The result will be the umpire takes the bat out of the game- the umpire will write down the make and model of the bat in question for the league director. The play stands and the game continues. The decision to let the play stand and continue the game is not a protest situation.*